(b) the details of vacancies as on 01.01.2008 in Gr. A, B, C and D;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Department of Doordarshan, Prasar Bharati, AIR etc. are working without regular Head at National level; and

(d) what steps are proposed to fill in the above vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (d) The information is being compiled and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Protest against films passed by Censor Board

3948. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the increasing number of protests, which often turn violent, against the screening of certain films despite the fact that they have been passed by the Censor Board;

(b) whether it reflects poorly on the functioning of the Censor Board; and

(c) what steps Government proposes to take to ensure that the certification given by the Censor Board is acceptable to all communities?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) Yes, Sir. Media reports have indicated that there had been protests in some States against certian films despite their being certified by Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC).

(b) No, Sir. CBFC certifies films in accordance with the Cinematograph Act, 1952 and Rules and Guidelines framed thereunder.

(c) CBFC has its headquarters at Mumbai. Its nine regional officers are located at Bangalore, Calcutta, Chennai, Cuttack, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Mumbai, New Delhi and Thiruvananthapuram which cater to the films imported into or produced in their respective jurisdictional areas. The regional offices are assisted in the examination of films by advisory panels (constituted under Section 5 of the Cinematograph Act) consisting of persons from different walks of life.

Additionally, as per Rule 41(4)(c) of the Cinematograph (Certification) Rules, 1983, in cases where the members of the Examining Committee, after the examination of the film, submit to the Chairman a provisional report indicating that expert opinion on subjects depicted in the film such as subjects relating to defence or foreign relations or any particular religion or law or medicine or any other subject, should be sought before the final report is submitted, the Chairman may after taking into consideration the circumstances of the case specify a time limit for obtaining the expert opinion and for the submission of the final report of the Examining Committee thereafter.

Participation of officers in NAM Conference

3949. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a delegation of officers from All India Radio, Doordarshan and Prasar Bharati have attended the NAM Conference in Las Vegas in USA last month;

(b) if so, names and designations of such officers and the amount incurred on them;

(c) whether correspondents from Doordarshan and All India Radio have not been included in the delegation to cover the event and if so, the reasons for their inclusion; and

(d) how many foreign tours have been undertaken by officers from Prasar Bharti, AIR and Doordarshan since 1st January, 2007 alongwith details and names of officers, expenditure incurred and purpose of such visits abroad?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, Shri B.S. Lalli, Chief Executive Officer, Prasar Bharati and Shri A.K. Bhatnagar Chief Engineer, All India Radio have attended the NAB (National Association of Broadcasters) Conference and not NAM Conference held in Las Vegas in USA during April, 2008. Prasar Bharati informed that the amount of total expenditure incurred was Rs. 7.00 lakh approximately.

(c) NAB 2008 was a conference-cum-exhibition which exhibited latest innovation in Broadcast Technology and equipments. News correspondents did not accompany, as normally AIR and Doordarshan do not cover such International events.

(d) The details of foreign tours/deputations undertaken by the officers of Prasar Bharati, AIR and Doordarshan since 1st January, 2007 is given in the Annexure. [*See* Appendix 213 Annexure No. 16]

Remedial measures to check sexual and violent contents in films

†3950. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken or proposed to be taken by the Central Government regarding remedial measures to check the adverse effects of increasing sexual and violent contents in the films;

(b) if so, the details thereof as on date; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) and (b) Central Board of Film Certification certifies films as per the provisions of Cinematograph Act, 1952 and Rules and Guidelines framed thereunder. Scenes which are violative of the provisions of the Act, Rules and Guidelines are deleted. While certifying films care is taken to categories films whose contents are not suitable for minors as 'A'. The guidelines *inter alia* stipulate the following:

* Anti-social activities such as violence are not glorified and justified.
* Pointless or avoidable scenes of violence, cruelty and horror, scenes of violence primarily intended to provide entertainment and such scenes as may have the effect of desensitizing or dehumanizing people are not shown.
* Human sensibilities are not offended by vulgarity, obscenity, or depravity;
* Words with dual meaning as obviously cater to baser instincts are not allowed;
* scenes degrading or denigrating women in any manner are not presented;

Scenes showing sexual perversions shall be avoided and if such matters are germane to the theme, they shall be reduced to the minimum and no details are shown.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.